



# STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

John Hickenlooper  
Governor

Lt. Gov. Joseph A. Garcia  
Executive Director

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## ***PRESS RELEASE: U.S. LABOR SECRETARY USES COLORADO COMMUNITY COLLEGE AS BACKDROP FOR \$474.5 MILLION GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT***

WESTMINSTER – U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez on Wednesday announced \$474.5 million in grants to expand training programs nationwide, including nearly \$25 million for Colorado campuses.

Perez made the announcement during a visit to the Westminster campus of Front Range Community College. Front Range will receive \$9,925,073 to lead a consortium of nine Colorado institutions in a new state training effort targeting advanced manufacturing.

The other schools are Aims Community College (\$2,106,296), Community College of Denver (\$3,534,061), Emily Griffith Technical College (\$417,734), Lamar Community College (\$1,092,663), Pikes Peak Community College (\$2,307,859), Pueblo Community College (\$1,656,914), Red Rocks Community College/Warren Tech (\$1,946,047) and Metropolitan State University of Denver (\$1,958,663).

Together, consortium members will receive \$24,945,310.

Front Range is launching CHAMP, the Colorado Helps Advanced Manufacturing Program. CHAMP's partners will increase the attainment of manufacturing degrees and certificates that align with the industry's recognized competencies, skills and certifications to create a pipeline of highly-qualified advanced manufacturing industry workers.

CHAMP will redesign credit for prior learning allowing students to accelerate toward degree and credential attainment. The colleges will add industry-driven content to the manufacturing program and redesign several courses for online/hybrid delivery.

Federal officials say the grants are part of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training grant program, a multiyear, nearly \$2 billion initiative to expand targeted training programs for unemployed workers, especially those impacted by foreign trade.

The 57 grants announced by Secretary Perez will support 190 projects in at least 183 schools in every state plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The grants will expand programs in growing industries, such as advanced manufacturing, transportation and health care, and encourage geographic and industry sector collaboration through the development of both statewide and multistate college consortia. The U.S. Department of Labor is implementing and administering the program in coordination with the U.S. Department of Education. All course



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materials developed using these public funds will be available through the Open Educational Resources initiative so that others can access and build on successful training models. The U.S. Department of Commerce is also encouraging employers to collaborate with local colleges eligible for funding through this program.

To learn more about the national effort, read the press release from the U.S. Department of Labor, which includes a state-by-state breakdown of grant recipients:

- <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/eta/ETA20131932.htm>

For coverage of the announcement in Colorado, see the following links:

## *Denver Business Journal*

- <http://www.bizjournals.com/denver/news/2013/09/18/labor-awards-25m-to-colorado-colleges.html>

## *Denver Post*

- [http://www.denverpost.com/breakingnews/ci\\_24122492/u-s-labor-secretary-announces-training-grants-support?IADID=Search-www.denverpost.com-www.denverpost.com](http://www.denverpost.com/breakingnews/ci_24122492/u-s-labor-secretary-announces-training-grants-support?IADID=Search-www.denverpost.com-www.denverpost.com)